

Steele
10/747,759

REMARKS

The undersigned requests a personal interview with the Examiner in charge of this application.

The Abstract was objected to as being informal. This has been corrected.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected as being anticipated by Sansalone (5,429,278).

Claims 3-16 were rejected as being unpatentable over Sansalone in view of Cole (4,089,441).

Sansalone discloses a portable garden powder duster in which a fan is employed to inject the powder from a container under the receiving tube 18. In the present invention the particulate matter is supplied from above by gravity feed.

Cole has a portable manually operated duster in which the particulate is supplied from a container above the discharge conduit using an agitator for this purpose.

In the present invention the particulate is fed from above by gravity, as noted above, using a control valve consisting of a flat member (see Fig. 7) which is rotated to regulate the flow. This does not appear to be taught or suggested in the above references.

Independent claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite this feature. Claims 1 and 9 recite the container mounted on the blower attachment which is located between the exhaust tube and the elongated blower tube (see Figs. 6 and 10) while claim 9 recites the container worn by the user using a strap. Also, claim 9 uses the expression "consisting of" to limit the subject matter in the claim to the exact configuration recited.

The remaining claims all depend from either claim 1 or 9 and should be allowed along with their parent claim.

It is noted that neither of the references describes a leaf blower which is called for in all of the claims. The present invention is for apparatus which is added to, or retrofits, a leaf blower to carry out the function described in the specification.

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In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the claims as amended are drawn to patentable subject matter and should be allowed.

A conscientious effort has been made to place this application in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned or Mr. Kroll if further changes are required to obtain allowance of the application.

A favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: April 13, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF FAXING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, telephone number 703-872-9306 on April 13, 2005.



Leonard Belkin